

Remarks

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present U.S. Patent application as amended herein. Claims 1, 3, 5, 6, 9, 19, 23, 25, 28, 29, 34, 36, 39, 43, 44, 47 and 50 have been amended. Claims 2, 24 and 40 have been canceled. No claims have been added. Thus, claims 1, 3-23, 25-39 and 41-54 are pending.

OBJECTION TO THE SPECIFICATION

The specification was objected to for informalities. The identified informalities have been corrected herein. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

OBJECTIONS TO THE CLAIMS

Various informalities were identified in the Office Action. These informalities have been corrected. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objections to the claims be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 112, SECOND PARAGRAPH

Claims 4, 25-27, 29-33, 40, 43, 44, 47-49 and 50-54 were rejected as being indefinite. Claim 4 was rejected as being unclear. Applicants refer to Figure 3 and the associated description for an explanation of transmission to and from the processing resource over the switch fabric. The remaining antecedent basis problems have been corrected. Accordingly, Applicants request that the rejections of the claims as being indefinite be withdrawn.

CLAIM REJECTIONS – 35 U.S.C. § 102(e)

Claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 16-23, 25, 33 and 39 were rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,798,779 issued to Shimbashi (*Shimbashi*). Each of claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 16-23, 25, 33 and 39 has been amended to include allowable subject matter or depends from a claim that includes allowable subject matter. Therefore, Applicants submit that claims 1, 4, 7, 8, 16-23, 25, 33 and 39 are in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

Claims 45 and 46 were allowed. Claims 2, 5, 6, 9, 10-15, 24 and 34-38 were objected to as being dependent on a rejected base claim but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Claims 2 and 24 have been canceled and the subject matter incorporated in the base independent claim. Each of claims 5, 6, 9, 10-15, and 34-38 has either been rewritten in independent form, or depends from an independent claim that includes allowable subject matter. Therefore, claims 5, 6, 9, 10-15, and 34-38 are in condition for allowance.

Claims 3 and 40-44 were indicated as allowable if rewritten to overcome the indefiniteness rejection set forth above. Applicants submit that the amendments to the claims place the claims in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

For at least the foregoing reasons, Applicants submit that the rejections have been overcome. Therefore, claims 1, 3-23, 25-39 and 41-54 are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone if such contact would further the examination of the present

application. Please charge any shortages and credit any overcharges to our Deposit

Account number 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date: February 7, 2008

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